

Executive Summary

Initial Findings: Pilot Counties Municipal Elections 2019

New Georgia Statewide Voting System

Overview

The intent of conducting pilots in municipal elections is to place the new equipment into real election conditions to evaluate the equipment, the processes and importantly the people interacting with the new verifiable paper trail voting system.

As the office of Secretary of State has been working with the new system, we have seen that it isn't simply changing one type of mechanism, a Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) voting machine for another machine, the Ballot Marking Device (BMD). The new paper ballot voting system fundamentally changes the way that the state of Georgia has conducted voting for nearly two decades.

With that in mind, the implementation team understood that piloting the new system in real world conditions, with the introduction of poll workers, polling places, and most importantly voters, would be vital to bring potential issues to the forefront.

With that in mind, we picked nine counties to do the initial pilots: Bacon, Bartow, Carroll, Catoosa, Decatur, Evans, Lowndes, Paulding, and Treutlen. All elections officials were brought in for three days of training to our Center For Elections with Dominion and SOS Staff. Bacon, Evans, and Treutlen ended up having no municipal elections, so the remaining six counties conducted their November elections on the new system. Cobb County volunteered to conduct a pilot election with the new system, except using hand-marked paper ballots instead of ballot marking devices. That pilot still included the Poll Pad, Polling Place Scanner, and new election management system. The Secretary of State's office is extremely grateful to the counties who volunteered to be the first to test this new system. Their work and lessons learned is irreplaceably valuable as the State continues this implementation.

Initial Findings

There were 27,482 votes cast in the Municipal (and County) elections in the six pilot counties. That means there were 27,482 interactions by voters with the new voting machines that were completed successfully.

Here are the breakouts of ballots cast:

County	Votes Cast	Registered	Percent Turnout
Bartow	1,989	13,708	14.5%
Carroll	3,455	25,527	13.5%
Catoosa	4,614	47,840	9.6%
Decatur	1,047	6,974	15.0%
Lowndes	9,495	71,017	13.4%
Paulding	6,882	107,021	6.4%

Here are the breakouts of the deployment of equipment:

County	Advanced		Election Day	
	BMD	Polling Place Scanner	BMD	Polling Place Scanner
Bartow	27	4	180	26
Carroll	12	3	20	12
Catoosa	14	2	48	11
Decatur	25	2	169	10
Lowndes	10	1	22	2
Paulding	21	5	28	5
Totals	109	17	467	66

So overall in service there were 576 BMDs and 83 Polling Place Scanners deployed.

As you will see in the subsequent appendices there were 45 total “incidents” reported. Some of those were not problems, they were reports of the system functioning properly, but it being new, and wanting to be thorough, the poll workers called them into the technicians from Dominion.

By that measure, we had 45 incidents out of 27,482 votes or an incident rate of 0.164%. There were 4 touchscreens out of 576 (0.69%) and 1 scanner out of 83 (1.2%) were taken from service out of an abundance of caution. Further, nearly all issues were caused by human error or interaction which can be mitigated through training or identified through testing.

APPENDIX A

Multiple County

PollPad

Each County, with the exception of Catoosa, had an issue upon opening of polls with some PollPads. Some PollPads were not able to produce Voter Cards to activate the BMDs. The process would start and the voter could be identified as being in the right place. However, the screen would ask the voter to pick a party. Obviously, as a municipal or county election, the elections are non-partisan, so the work-flow would hit a dead end. The issue was discovered upon the opening of the polls and was reported from Bartow, Carroll, Cobb, and Paulding by approximately 7:20am. SOS office requested that Dominion contact their technicians on site in the remaining counties and discovered the issue was in Decatur and Lowndes as well.

The Center For Elections identified the issue was there was an additional field within the dataset erroneously. The issue could be remedied by reloading the final dataset with the field removed. By 7:40am the SOS office directed that KnowInk and Dominion do a universal fix quickly by loading that dataset through a WiFi connection. That was executed and the PollPads then began to function properly by approximately 8:20am.

Below are the collected reports:

Time	Location	Equipment	Issue	Resolved	Resolution Notes
	Bartow	PollPads	At least one working at each location		
724	Carroll	PollPads	Bonner-pollpads not able to create cards, also not working at other county admin. Greg contacted KnowInk person	Resolved	
802	Carroll	PollPads	pollpads to syncing-unable to process voters	Resolved	

	Decatur	PollPads	Some working, some did not		
733	Lowndes	PollPads	Gabe reported the pollpads are not working, called Rokey, it is the same issue they saw in the warehouse	Resolved	
800	Lowndes	PollPads	Lowndes-Gabe reported that they are not able to process voters through the pollpad, said we can turn on Wi-Fi	Resolved	
807	Lowndes	PollPads	per Gabe, one tech going around to update pollpads does not work	Resolved	
717	Paulding	PollPads	Pollpads not working at Diane Wright-unable to scan unable to look up manually, they have a line and people are leaving. Left message for Rokey	Resolved	

APPENDIX B

Bartow County

Time	County	Equipment	Issue	Resolved	Resolution Notes
620	Bartow	Touchscreen	Touchscreen staying in landscape mode	Resolved	
945	Bartow	PPS	Scanner was needing to have some ballots, not all, inserted multiple times to read ballot AAFAJJ0050, scanner is reading ballots	Resolved	
1043	Bartow	Touchscreen	Cartersville West-Touchscreen rebooted while voter was at the touchscreen , voter was able to vote normally once machine rebooted and pollworker got machine	Resolved	picked up an incident report, pollworker was able to reactivate machine, voter was able to reuse card without issue, no further issues reported on this

			back to voting screen		machine.
1500	Bartow	Touchscreen	Cartersville West-Machine rebooted, stuck at the boot loader screen, power cycled machine, operating normally at this time	Resolved	
1735	Bartow	Touchscreen	Catersville West-machine rebooted stuck at boot loader screen, cycled power on machine. 2nd time this happened on this machine		
1820	Bartow	Touchscreen	Cartersville -East machine froze, rebooted battery and machine returned to normal operation SN:1907020644	Resolved	
		PollPads			pollpad check in - trouble reading drivers licenses. Strong

					florecent light above PP. Did partial manual check in
		PPS			After use, it is helpful to submit ballot face down (fold down)
1850	Bartow	Touchscreen	Cartersville East touchscreen down, rebooted and stuck on a black screen.	Resolved	

APPENDIX C

Carroll County

Time	County	Equipment	Issue	Resolved	Resolution Notes
845	Carroll	PPS	precinct scanner jammed, cleared jam, ICP would not accept ballots, scanner replaced, voting normal	Resolved	
1246	Carroll	Touchscreen	Machine rebooted, stuck at the boot loader	Resolved	

			screen, power cycled machine, operating normally at this time		
1320	Carroll	Touchscreen	Bonner-swapping out 2 touchscreen because they have rebooted multiple times	Resolved	tech swapping out machines
1545	Carroll	Touchscreen	machine battery symbol disappeared from machine, machine still functioning normal. Tech keeping watch on machine for any changes	Resolved	county admin location
1545	Carroll	Touchscreen	voter stuck drivers license into machine, machine went to a black screen, rebooting machine, black screen has happened multiple times on this machine.	Resolved	bonner-rover onsite, same location has had an issue on 4 of 6 total machines, 2 machines rebooted and were replaced and then 1 of the replacement machines rebooted as

					well.bonner down to 3 touchscre n , tabernacle church had machine rebooted also
1545	Carroll	Touchscre n	rebooted machine but it will not power back on. Recommen ded to remove power, remove battery, let machine sit for 2 minutes, replug battery, once machine is at the start screen plug in power and resume normal operation	Resolved	university of west GA- machine replaced, machine rebooted normally but they are replacing the machine

APPENDIX D

Catoosa County

Time	County	Equipment	Issue	Resolved	Resolution
745	Catoosa	Touchscreen	lakeview printer jam, printed ballot information on one page and barcode on second page, ballot being spoiled and voter remaking ballot		Log files will be collected Thurs/Fri and sent to Dominion engineering
1010	Catoosa	Touchscreen	power not attached correctly-reattached power correctly and touchscreen is working normally	Resolved	
1040	Catoosa	Touchscreen	Ringgold Freedom Center-voter went to touchscreen, before printing ballot the screen went blank, Voter was able to use same voter card and cast a ballot successfully without re-creating voter access card, tech	Resolved	number mismatch on touchscreen compared to scanner and voter registration numbers. Tonya is aware of the situation. Machine escalated to Engineering and we will need to pull the log files from machine.

			mentioned touchscreen number increased by 2 ballot printed, scanner and voter count numbers match.		
1100	Catoosa	Touchscreen	Fort Oglethorpe City: machine keeps going black, tech going onsite to check the power connections . Taking machine out of service and will use remaining machines at that location	Resolved	
1327	Catoosa	Touchscreen	West Side location: pollworker added paper to the printer and they received a message on the screen about the change	Resolved	recycled power to the touchscreen and printer and everything worked normal, suspect they hit the prompt to not use the USB device and did not reboot the touchscreen and the printer both

					causing the issue.
1340	Catoosa	Touchscreen	West side location: pollworker smart card are not reading in the tech is creating a new pollworker card. Having this issue on 2 of 4 machines, tech taking pollworker card to site	Resolved	recycled power to the touchscreen and printer and everything worked normal, suspect they hit the prompt to not use the USB device and did not reboot the touchscreen and the printer both causing the issue.
1850	Catoosa	Touchscreen	Oglethorpe touchscreen rebooted and went to a black screen	Resolved	

APPENDIX E

Decatur County

Time	County	Equipment	Issue	Resolved	Resolution Notes
630	Decatur	Electrical			power issues at the coliseum, finding live outlets for use
2020	Decatur	CSD			Question about CSD procedure to verify he was doing it correctly

APPENDIX F

Lowndes County

Time	County	Equipment	Issue	Resolved	Resolution Notes
825	Lowndes	Touchscreen	precinct 6 touchscreen not showing charging, asked to verify unit is plugged in, UPS is showing correctly and the power is plugged in on the touchscreen		
1355	Lowndes	Touchscreen	USB change message on 1 machine, checking to make sure the site is checking the check box to use the USB device and	Resolved	

			hitting always on the message.		
1745	Lowndes	Touchscreen	Precinct 4-touchscreen frozen, tech went onsite and power cycled the machine, pulled the battery then replugged the battery and machine returned to normal operation		
1820	Lowndes	Touchscreen	Naylor- 3 machines at one end of the building and when the voter prints it causes the other 2 touchscreens to show a usb change message. the same thing happens in the same building but at a different outlet in the building, same thing where a voter prints		

			on 1 touchscreen and the other 2 show the USB change message		
2045	Lowndes	Reporting			questions about Results Tally Reporting and getting results loaded correctly. Scanner cards were created for only 1 scanner so everything scanned on second scaner weren't recognized
2110	Lowndes	PPS			tech created one set of cards for multiple scanners creating an issue where the county can not load the cards this happened at multiple polling locations. The plan is to create CSD scanners and run the ballots tonight through the

					CSD to get results
--	--	--	--	--	--------------------

APPENDIX G

Paulding County

Time	County	Equipment	Issue	Resolved	Resolution Notes
640	Paulding	Touchscreen	PW card not working on all machines, borrowed PW card from another precinct to		

			get all machines up and running		
700	Paulding	PPS	time not changed-Church at the Ridge	Resolved	
1410	Paulding	Accessible session	Poplar Springs Baptist Church, headset unable to hear audio, pollworker created the card for the accessible voter incorrectly	Resolved	
1505	Paulding	Touchscreen	Watson Precinct-touchscreen needed to be reboot, it wasn't reading smart cards and when it came back on had message that the reader was detached, rebooted machine again and normal operation continued	Resolved	
1945	Paulding	CSD			when scanning results not all results were loading into Results Tally

					Reporting module, ended up re-scanning the 81 ballots and they transferred into module normally
--	--	--	--	--	---

APPENDIX H

Next Steps

- As of Friday, November 8, Dominion has obtained log records from any equipment with reported issues.
- Log files being examined by Dominion engineering

- For Cobb hand-marked pilot, anecdotal accounts of voters given incorrect ballots. Need to compare reporting at precinct level to voter check-ins.
- County Debrief to GA SOS Office, Dominion, and KnowInk scheduled.
- Prepare for runoffs in Valdosta Mayor race, Smyrna Mayor race, and Smyrna Ward 2 with information obtained from first pilot.